Maine Revised Statutes

Title 19-A: DOMESTIC RELATIONS HEADING: PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. B, §2 (new); Pt. E, §2 (aff)

Chapter 53: PATERNITY HEADING: PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. B, §2 (new); Pt. E, §2 (aff)

§1616. VOLUNTARY ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PATERNITY

(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 19-A, SECTION 1615)

1. Legal finding of paternity. A signed voluntary acknowledgment of paternity is a legal finding of paternity, subject to the right of a signatory to rescind the acknowledgment within the earlier of 60 days or the date of an administrative or judicial proceeding relating to the child, including a proceeding to establish a support order, in which the signatory is a party. After the right to rescind ends, the acknowledgment may be challenged in court only on the basis of fraud, duress or material mistake of fact with the burden of proof on the challenger and under which the legal responsibilities of a signatory arising from the acknowledgment, including child support obligations, may not be suspended during the challenge except for good cause shown.

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[ 1997, c. 1, §15 (RAL) .]
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2. **Notice.** Before a mother and putative father may sign an acknowledgment of paternity, the mother and the putative father must be given oral and written notice of the alternatives to, the legal consequences of and the rights and responsibilities that arise from signing the acknowledgment.

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[ 1997, c. 1, §15 (RAL) .]
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3. Full faith and credit. The State shall give full faith and credit to an acknowledgment of paternity signed in any other state according to that state's procedures.

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[ 1997, c. 1, §15 (RAL) .]
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4. **Bar on acknowledgment ratification proceedings.** Legal proceedings are not required or permitted to ratify an unchallenged acknowledgment of paternity.

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[ 1997, c. 1, §15 (RAL) .]

SECTION HISTORY

RR 1997, c. 1, §15 (RAL).
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